

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

2009 ANNUAL REPORT





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FROM THE DIRECTOR:

MISSION

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice fulfills a leadership role in the statewide coordination of the criminal Justice System.

As the state's justice advocate, the Commission:

- develops comprehensive plans
- facilitates the improvement of criminal and juvenile justice administration
- provides a forum for discussion and problem solving among state, federal, local, and private agencies



As Executive Director, I am pleased to present the 2009 Annual Report of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

We remain committed to our Vision Statement which states that we will "strive to be a leader in criminal and juvenile justice progress through the dedication of forward-thinking staff, services provided with integrity, and leadership in the spirit of cooperation."

The Nebraska Crime Commission is proud of our accomplishments during fiscally challenging times and looks to the future with optimism. I commend

the staff of the Crime Commission and our commission and coalition members for their dedication and service to the State of Nebraska.

It is my pleasure to work with a very competent and professional staff that is dedicated to fulfilling our statutory mission and our own mission statement which states how the Crime Commission 'fulfills a leadership role in the statewide coordination of the criminal justice system.' We could not be successful without working in partnerships with allied state agencies, law enforcement, victim advocates and juvenile coalitions from across our state. For all of these groups and individuals, I am extremely grateful. I also want to extend my gratitude to members of both the Executive and Legislative branches for their continued support.

I hope you find the 2009 Annual report a valuable resource which promotes confidence in our ability to serve our great State of Nebraska.

Respectfully,

Michael E. Behm
Executive Director

VISION

The Crime Commission will strive to be a leader in criminal and juvenile justice progress through the dedication of forward-thinking staff, services provided with integrity, and leadership in the spirit of cooperation.

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CRIME COMMISSION APPROPRIATIONS FY 09/10

The Crime Commission's budget is divided into nine budget programs, with a total staffing in Lincoln of 26.3 positions and 19.0 in Grand Island. The following pages contain a brief description of each budget program, as well as a breakdown by type of funds, operations, and aid.

JUVENILE SERVICES

General Funds, Operations	114,076
General Funds, Aid	587,812
Total General Funds	701,888

These funds are distributed to local communities for programs which provide alternatives to juvenile incarceration. The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (Committee) makes decisions on awarding these funds, the County Juvenile Services funds, and the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Funds.

VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE

General Funds, Operations	3,886
General Funds, Aid	52,559
Total General Funds	56,445
Federal Funds, Operations	122,000
Federal Funds, Aid	2,324,000
Total Federal Funds	2,446,000

The Commission provides funding for local victim assistance and domestic violence centers. These centers provide follow-up support services to crime victims and witnesses as they proceed through the criminal justice system. Partial funding is provided for 37 centers across the state.

AGENCY SUMMARY

General Funds	11,163,146
Cash Funds	1,581,933
Federal Funds	8,392,000*
Total Appropriation	21,137,079

* Does not include one-time ARRA funds.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA)

The Commission has received a share of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) federal funds in the following amounts. These are one-time funds and have a two to three year grant period.

Byrne Justice Assistance Act	8,238,012
Violence Against Women Act	1,217,180
Victims of Crime Act	618,000
Crime Victims' Reparations	15,663

CRIME VICTIMS' REPARATIONS

General Funds, Operations	8,208
General Funds, Aid	20,000
Total General Funds	28,208
Cash Funds, Aid	65,000
Federal Funds, Aid	60,000

Funding is provided from this budget program to compensate innocent victims of crime who receive bodily injuries and do not have funds available from other sources to pay medical expenses. Funeral costs and lost wages not covered by insurance are also reimbursed. All claims are examined by Commission staff and approved or denied by the Executive Director.

COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES AID

General Funds, Aid	1,492,500
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These funds assist counties in providing services identified in their comprehensive juvenile services plan. Programs funded include diversion, delinquency prevention, intensive juvenile probation, shelter care, assessment/evaluation, and family support services.

JAIL STANDARDS

General Funds, Operations	291,886
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The Jail Standards Board is responsible for the enforcement of minimum standards for the operation and construction of local jails. Staff from this budget program conduct annual inspections of local jails and juvenile detention facilities and also provide technical assistance.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CJIS)

General Funds, Operations	144,683
Federal Funds, Operations	750,000

The CJIS Advisory Committee has developed a statewide strategic plan for improving the exchange of information among criminal justice agencies. Appropriated funds are used to implement those projects identified in the CJIS strategic plan.



CRIME COMMISSION APPROPRIATIONS FY 09/10

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

General Funds, Operations	545,958
General Funds, Aid	13,457
Total General Funds	559,415

Cash Funds, Operations 37,765

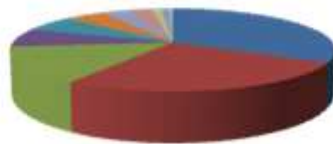
Federal Funds, Operations	644,000
Federal Funds, Aid	4,392,000
Total Federal Funds	5,036,000

This budget program provides the central administrative services for the agency. It also includes most of the major federal grant programs administered by the Crime Commission.

FUNDED PROGRAMS

- Uniform Crime Reporting
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant
- Statistical Analysis Center
- Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Funds
- Violence Against Women Act Funds
- Safe Neighborhoods
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Meth initiatives
- Sexual Assault Services
- VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)
- Hate Crimes Reporting
- Homicide Study
- Racial Profiling Reporting
- Statewide Crimestoppers Aid

Crime Commission Grant Programs
Federal Funds 2009/2010
\$7,077,000



■ Victim Assistance, \$2,324,000
■ Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, \$1,859,000
■ Violence Against Women, \$1,008,000
■ Juvenile Justice Title 2, \$510,000
■ Juvenile Accountability Incentive, \$427,000
■ Meth Initiatives, \$350,000
■ Sexual Assault Services, \$228,000
■ Enhanced VINE, \$186,300
■ Safe Neighborhoods, \$88,200
■ Residential Substance Abuse Treatment, \$62,700
■ Juvenile Justice Title 5, \$33,800

Crime Commission Grant Programs
General Funds 2009/2010
\$2,132,871



■ County Juvenile Services, \$1,492,500
■ Juvenile Services, \$587,812
■ Victim Assistance, \$52,559

THE GRANTS DIVISION

The grants division applies and manages 17 different federal and state grant programs, five of which are new programs. During 2009, the Grants Division managed 217 active grant awards with total awards of \$18,042,000. The grant programs administered by the Crime Commission include the following:



We always make it a priority to look at our processes and ensure we are being successful for all our subgrantees

*-Jennifer Kirkpatrick
Chief, Grants Division*

EDWARD BYRNE/JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

This federal grant program promotes partnership among federal, state and local criminal justice entities in addressing the state's drug and violent crime issues. In 2009, nine local Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces, one statewide Drug and Violent Crime Task Force, the Drug and Violent Crime Prosecution Unit with the Attorney General's Office, a Program Manager with the Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System and technical assistance for the Department of Corrections for an investigative software was supported with these funds. In 2009, the task forces reported 1,793 arrests and 1,794 citations. The task forces removed 25.05 kilos of Cocaine (powder and crack), 1,786.8 kilos of Marijuana, 49.5 kilos of Methamphetamine and 500.4 kilos of Methamphetamine precursors off the streets during 2009. In addition, the task forces seized 109 weapons. Looking at the impact of Methamphetamine in Nebraska, there were 16 working methamphetamine labs seized and 391 methamphetamine cases investigated, which is a decrease of 200 from 2008.

ARRA EDWARD BYRNE/ JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

The Crime Commission received additional funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support the same statewide purpose areas as the formula JAG grant program. These funds have been awarded to support multi-jurisdictional task forces, information technology projects and training. Not all funds have been awarded, and a new grant announcement is anticipated in the summer of 2010.

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD (PSN)

This pass through grant is a federal program that helps reduce gun crime and gang violence. The PSN Task Force determines how the funds will be used. Nebraska's efforts include: 1) a "Hard Time for Gun Crime" media campaign that informs people that using a firearm in the commission of crime will add 10 years to their sentence; 2) specialized intervention efforts by criminal justice officials of those identified as prone to the use of a firearm during the commission of a crime; 3) various community activities which result in improved communication between neighbors and with local law enforcement officers; 4) specialized investigative efforts of crimes involving firearms; and 5) expanded prosecution of crimes involving firearms.

RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

This pass through grant is a federal program that provides support for the residential substance abuse treatment programs housed within the correctional facilities. The Nebraska Department of Corrections has established a comprehensive treatment program for offenders prior to their eligibility for parole with these funds. One added component to their comprehensive program is an after-care treatment component after the offender is released. There are 166 beds affected by this funded project located in the Omaha Correctional Center (OCC), the Nebraska State Penitentiary (NSP) and the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women (NCCW). During 2009, 353 offenders entered this treatment program, and of them, 101 have completed the program.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE

This federal program is designed to provide direct services to victims of crime. The funds come from criminal fines and penalties. A limited amount of state funds are also used to support this main goal. In 2009, 40 programs were funded, which consisted of 15 Victim Assistance Units, 22 Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault Programs and two State-wide Programs (i.e. NDVSAC, VINE, etc...). These programs assisted 72,949 victims and provided 250,060 services to these victims.

CRIME VICTIM'S REPARATIONS

Funding is provided from this budget program to compensate innocent victims of crime who receive physical injuries and do not have funds available from other sources to pay medical expenses. Funeral costs and lost wages (not covered by insurance) are also reimbursed. All claims are examined by Commission staff and approved or denied by the Executive Director. Appeals are heard by a seven member Committee.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)

This federal program provides funding that promotes the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women and victim services. This funding source provided funds to 10 Community Response Teams. These teams must prepare a strategy that supports the Nebraska STOP Implementation Plan to carry out building and maintaining partnerships between the criminal justice system and victim advocacy organizations, look beyond traditional resources and look to new/evolving resources to respond to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims. In addition, Nebraska has three statewide positions that are located with the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, Probation and Nebraska State Patrol.

ARRA VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

The Nebraska Crime Commission received additional funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support the priorities of the VAWA program statewide. Awarded projects began January 1, 2010 and support the ARRA VAWA implementation plan through Community Response Teams; court, probation and judicial training; victim services; culturally specific services; legal assistance for victims; training for prosecutors; batterer intervention programs; and law enforcement training.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM

This new federal program is designed to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment (i.e., accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, police departments, etc.), support services and related assistance to those victimized by sexual assault. The Nebraska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition is the pass through grant agency for SASP funds.

STATE JUVENILE SERVICES

In 2009, 22 juvenile programs were funded; 33 applications were received in this competitive process. Programs across the state included mentoring programs, truancy abatement, gender specific programs, after school programs, academic improvement and diversion services. The size of award ranged from \$9,240 to \$46,000. Eight awards were reduced due to the Special Legislative Session in November 2009, which called for a reduction in Juvenile Services funds. A total of \$544,856 was awarded.

COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES AID

These state program dollars are accessed by counties through an application process and must address priorities outlined in the County's Comprehensive Juvenile Services Three Year Plan. Funds are distributed on a formula basis. In 2009, \$1,279,824 was awarded to 36 counties who applied for the County Aid funds. These funds support 13 Juvenile Diversion programs, three electronic monitoring programs, six after school programs, 13 mentoring programs and various other juvenile programs across the state.

ARRA VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE

This federal program is funded through OVC as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Grant awards funded 10 programs to provide direct services to victims of all crime. The project period started January 1, 2010. A pilot project has been proposed in order to utilize the remaining VOCA ARRA funds.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION TITLE II

This federal program has a broad scope with 34 purpose areas. In 2009, 16 juvenile programs were funded; 19 applications were received in this competitive process. State-wide initiatives funded included a Juvenile Compliance Monitor, a Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator and a Community Planning Coordinator. Across the state, a variety of programs for juveniles were funded including diversion services, gender specific programs, culturally specific programs, restorative justice, reporting centers, gang prevention/intervention and risk/needs assessments. The size of award ranged from \$11,500 to \$75,000. A total of \$510,000 was awarded.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION TITLE V

This federal program is focused on Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) issues due to the limited funds available to States. In 2009, two programs addressing DMC issues received funds. A total of \$48,360 was awarded.

METHAMPHETAMINE INITIATIVES

This federal grant program promotes direct funding to establish and enhance a variety of problem solving strategies that will encourage community policing efforts that combat the distribution of methamphetamine. A major project addresses enhancement of ways to combat methamphetamines in Nebraska. This project helps reimburse the cost of the required physicals for local CLAN investigators. It also has provided training opportunities for those drug investigators within the Nebraska State Patrol, a methamphetamine specific prosecutor within the Attorney General's Office, start up of methamphetamine specific treatment within Corrections and specialized funding to support treatment needs of those on Probation. Another project derived from a partnership with the Nebraska State Patrol to assist in restoring the drug task forces across the state during the devastating decrease of JAG funds. These funds supported Nebraska State Patrol positions that were part of multi-jurisdictional drug and violent crime task forces in Nebraska.

JUVENILE COMPLIANCE MONITORING

The federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act requires states to have a system of compliance monitoring for the four core requirements of the Act. The Crime Commission has a full-time juvenile compliance monitor that is responsible for overseeing the compliance monitoring program which includes developing policy and procedures, classification and inspections of facilities and data collection and verification. The compliance monitor must apply this to any facility that has the potential to hold a juvenile to ensure they are in compliance with state and federal guidelines.

During the last year, the grants division took on five new programs of funding, worked with 403 active grant programs and processed 1,213 reports per quarter. The grants division worked closely with the Nebraska Crime Commission Board, the Nebraska Crime Commission Grant Review Committee, the VAWA Advisory Committee and the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice.

Juveniles

COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES AID ENHANCEMENT

In 2008, the state approved LB 1014, which states that, "Any funds not distributed to counties under this subsection shall be retained by the Commission to be distributed on a competitive basis under the County Juvenile Services Aid Program." The Crime Commission took the remaining funds from 2009, which equaled \$212,676, and awarded \$176,871 to 20 of the 23 counties that applied. These funds helped to support and enhance existing juvenile service programs within the counties. In order for Counties to apply for County Aid Enhancement funds, the Counties must have applied for the 2009 County Aid Funds.

JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT

This federal program has 17 potential purpose areas to address the growing problem of juvenile crime by encouraging accountability-based reform at the state and local level. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) determines which cities and counties are eligible to apply for predetermined levels of funding. This funding determination is based on Nebraska's juvenile population and crime data. Cities and counties eligible to apply for the predetermined amounts in 2009 included Sarpy County (\$15,484), Douglas County (\$69,114), Lancaster County (\$47,714), City of Omaha (\$35,842) and City of Lincoln (\$21,237). Eight purpose areas reported on by the cities and counties included: accountability, graduated sanctions, court staffing and pre-trial services, juvenile drug courts, risk and needs assessments, prosecutors, juvenile records system and information sharing. A total of \$189,391 was awarded to the predetermined cities and counties.

State retained dollars must be awarded to fund projects with a statewide impact. In 2009, the funds were awarded to Nebraska Health and Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services—Office of Juvenile Services (NHHS/OJS) to support five School Intervention Worker programs in the state (Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Lexington and North Platte). School Intervention programs provide adjudicated youth who are unsuccessful with regular community supervision with a structured sanction program in the school setting. A total of \$187,664 was awarded to NHHS/OJS.

JAIL STANDARDS DIVISION

The primary responsibility of the Jail Standards Division is the implementation and administration of the Jail Standards program. Major activities related to this function in 2009 are listed below.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Jail Standards staff provide assistance, where possible, to assist jails in meeting Standards. During 2009, technical assistance was provided in the following areas:

- The Division has the responsibility for review of plans and specifications in jail facility construction and renovation. The Board must give final approval for all projects before they can be built. Staff establishes ongoing working relationships with architects, consultants and local officials through the duration of such projects, providing input into needs assessment, preliminary planning, pre-architectural programming and design development. Two local jurisdictions currently have facilities under construction or renovation, or are in the planning or approval stages for new facilities.
- The Division regularly provides problem solving and technical assistance to jails related to provision of medical services, policy and procedure development and legal issues.



DATA COLLECTION

In 2009, the Division continued to collect data on the characteristics and flow of inmates through local jails. This provides an ongoing database that is critical to both state master planning and planning at the local facility level. For communities planning construction of new jail facilities, this data is essential in determining appropriate size and design characteristics.

THE JAIL STANDARDS BOARD

The Jail Standards program as established in 1975 under Chapter 81, Sections 4,124 - 4,134 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, provides for an eleven-member Jail Standards Board appointed by the Governor. This Board is responsible for the promulgation and enforcement of minimum standards for adult and juvenile detention facilities and for the maintenance, operation and construction of all local criminal detention facilities. Staff support to the Board is provided by the Jail Standards Division of the Nebraska Crime Commission. The Board meets quarterly to consider inspection reports, address local facility requests and consider approval of facility construction or renovation plans.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Staff continually develop and update resource documents, prepare reports, respond to information requests and sponsor workshops related to relevant topics such as Inmate Behavior Management, sharing of inmate medical information and policy and procedure development. Some resources that were provided during 2009 include:

- Model Policy and Procedures
- Model Jail Records
- Policy and Procedure Resource Manual and Inmate Handbook
- The Jail Planning and Construction Manual
- Jail Bulletin Training Modules
- And a wide variety of National Institute of Corrections materials.

ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

Staff completed an annual inspection of all 75 adult jails and four juvenile detention centers in the State during 2009. Written reports of these inspections were prepared and submitted to the Jail Standards Board for review and official action on a quarterly basis. At the end of 2009, seven detention centers in Nebraska were officially out of compliance with the Standards. Adult facilities are inspected for compliance with Standards regulating personnel, records and statistics, admission and release of inmates, classification, security and control, library materials, rehabilitative services, mail, visiting and telephone service, health services, food services, inmate's rights, inmate behavior, discipline and grievance processes and existing and new facility design and construction.

JAIL STANDARDS DIVISION(CONTINUED)

TRAINING

Jail Standards staff provide a variety of training opportunities for detention facility staff across the State.

- In 2009, Jail Standards staff participated in providing Initial Jail Training for 136 new detention center staff in jails throughout Nebraska. This included training at the Law Enforcement Training Center, Hall County, Scotts Bluff County, Lancaster County, Platte County, Dakota County and at Northeast Nebraska Community College.
- In 2009, staff continued an update of the curriculum materials for the Juvenile Detention Caregivers Initial Training for staff who serve juveniles.
- In conjunction with the Nebraska Correctional Administrators and Managers Association, and the Department of Corrections Medical Services Division, Jail Standards staff presented the 12th Annual Spring Conference for detention and corrections professionals. The 2009 Conference, held in Kearney, included 251 participants, 42 vendors and two full days of excellent and relevant presentations designed to continue the professionalization of corrections and detention in Nebraska.
- In 2009, staff provided a Training-for-Trainers course for 23 new jail training officers.

INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

The Information Services Division consists of six individuals. They provide support in three primary areas: research and statistics, support of criminal justice integration and meeting the agency's internal IT needs. Given the advances in technology, the power of automation and the goal of reducing redundancy for our agency as well as the many entities that the Crime Commission works with, there is a great deal of interaction in the projects and duties addressed by the Division. Statistical projects overlap with local law enforcement automation. Data integration provides opportunities for data collection. These efforts help make for cost effective, long term solutions instead of stand-alone projects.



NEBRASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM(NCJIS)

NCJIS is a secure portal providing access to a variety of data to certified users. It provides a cornerstone for sharing data among criminal justice and related agencies. In 2009,

- There were about 6,296 users and 379 agencies served;
- NCJIS was accessed 709,307 times;
- 3,717,958 searches were conducted across criminal histories, probation, corrections, jail, court and other systems. Searches can allow users to see all activity related to a particular individual;
- 722,883 court pages were displayed;
- and 1,153,756 DMV driver histories were viewed.

Information Services staff are continually working to increase the collection and sharing of data among criminal justice and related agencies. Accomplishments include:

1. Operating NCJIS (Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System), a secure internet based data portal providing access to criminal justice and related data.
2. Providing NDEN (Nebraska Data Exchange Network) as a resource with limited views of NCJIS, primarily non-restricted data, to non-criminal justice users. Over 1,100 Department of Health and Human Services users access NDEN. Also, users from the Child Advocacy Centers use this tool to help in the investigation of child abuse cases.
3. Providing victim notification and detainee information through VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), a service available since May 2000. Individuals can either obtain information on someone being held in jail or prison or request to receive information by phone or email of a release. In 2009, there were 5,201 new registrations by people wanting to be notified of the release of an arrestee or offender, an average of over 400 people per month. Almost 26,000 calls were made to VINE to obtain information, calls that otherwise may have gone directly to County Attorneys or corrections staff. Almost 127,000 online searches for offender information were also conducted.
4. Working to establish multi-state data sharing. Nebraska and Wyoming cross-train their portal users (NCJIS and WycJIS) to gather information on individuals showing up in both states. Also, Nebraska participates in CONNECT, a consortium with Wyoming, Kansas and Alabama to establish data sharing through the state's portals. This federally funded initiative builds on standards that are being set for national data sharing.

INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION (CONTINUED)

Data is produced in various forms and is also available for user defined searches on the Crime Commission website. Statistics and research programs include:

- UCR/NIBRS (Uniform Crime Report / Nebraska Incident Based Reporting System) - These provide the basis for looking at reported crime and arrests by law enforcement.
- Traffic Stops - Law enforcement contacts are collected to provide an annual report relating to the nature of stops and the possibility of racial profiling.
- Jail Hold - Data from local facilities is gathered to support the needs of the Jail Standards Division as well as local planning.
- Juvenile Court Reporting
- Offender Populations - The Crime Commission provides statistical support for the Community Corrections Council.

Data integration efforts of the CJIS Advisory Committee focus on two main areas.

1. Increased access to data - This is driven by NCJIS, a secure data portal providing access to a wide variety of justice and related datasets to users at their desks, in their cars or using mobile devices. Data includes criminal histories, jail and corrections holds, probationers, court cases and mug shots.
2. Improved data through the criminal justice cycle - Efforts to help local automation have included sponsoring local automation for law enforcement, jails, electronic citations and prosecutors. After the data is captured locally, it is also being moved across agencies, such as from the prosecutors to the courts, to improve availability as well as eliminate duplicate data entry.

NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)

Mission

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center is dedicated to educate, train, and evaluate law enforcement officers; as well as regulate statewide training academies and mandated programs, to ensure all meet state certification requirements as established by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice through the Police Standards Advisory Council.

Vision

To be the premier law enforcement training facility with highly qualified instructors and staff capable of meeting the needs and expectations of the Citizens of Nebraska for developing highly trained and competent law enforcement officers.



The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center was created by Nebraska State Statute 81-1402 to (1) test all law enforcement candidates on behalf of the Police Standards Advisory Council to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, (2) oversee and monitor other training schools and training academies to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, and (3) conduct certification programs and advanced law enforcement training as directed by the Council.

The Training Center is under the supervision and control of the Nebraska Police Standards Advisory Council, which is a special standing committee of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (81-1403 & 81-1406). The Training Center Director (81-1404) is directly responsible to the Commission, through the Council, for compliance with the duties prescribed in the statutes. The Council, subject to review by the Commission, promulgates rules for the operation of the Training Center. Additionally, the Council promulgates rules for certification and training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the State of Nebraska. The Council also serves as the fact-finding board for officer revocation actions, and it makes recommendations pertaining to an officer's certification status to the Commission. The Commission reviews the Council's recommendation and makes a final

determination regarding the officer's certification status. Through the efforts of the Director, Council and Commission, the public is assured that Nebraska Law Enforcement Officers are competent and professional.

The Training Center is home for two law enforcement academies. The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) Academy services every Nebraska agency requiring law enforcement certification training except Omaha and Lincoln police departments who operate their own academies under the guidance of the Council in their respective jurisdictions. The Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (NSPTA) is collocated with the Training Center Academy. The NSPTA trains both entry-level law enforcement officers as well as in-service and training for all NSP sworn and civilian employees.

The Training Center is located on a 40 acre campus adjacent to the Grand Island Airport. The two academies share administrative office and classroom space, 104 double-occupancy dorm rooms, a driving track, outdoor firearms range, police service dog facility, carrier enforcement training building, on-site dining facilities and a host of other police training facilities. The budget of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center supports both the Training Center and the Nebraska State Patrol Academies.

NLETC TRAINING FOR FISCAL YEAR 08/09

A Total of 132 courses were offered with 2,148 students and 94,838 training hours delivered in fiscal year 2008/2009 (excludes NSPTA courses that were reported via NSP).

SPECIALIZED COURSES (84 COURSES OFFERED, 907 STUDENTS FOR 16,608 TRAINING HOURS)

Specialized offerings included: Basic Dispatcher Training, Civil Process, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, Defensive Tactics Instructor and Recertification, Domestic Violence Instructor Training, Emergency Medical Dispatch, Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor, Firearms Instructor and Recertification, Field Training Officer, Grand Crossing Collision, Glock Training, Instructor Development, Intermediate Handgun, NCIC Telecommunicator, Preliminary Breath Testing, Police Service Dog, Advance PowerPoint Training, Patrol Rifle Instructor, Reactive Shooting Instructor, Sheriff's Continuing Education, SHARP Instructor Recertification, Survival Shooting, Taser Instructor and Train the Trainers.

HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT COURSES (23 COURSES OFFERED, 694 STUDENTS)

Under the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety Grant, regional and NLETC hosted training included: Advance Accident Investigation, Intermediate Accident Investigation, In-Car-Video, DataMaster, Preliminary Breath Testing, Radar and Laser, Spanish for DUI Enforcement, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Standardized Field Sobriety Update and Technical Accident Investigation.

DRUG GRANT COURSES (11 COURSES OFFERED, 286 STUDENTS)

Under the Crime Commission drug grant, the following courses were offered: Drug Interdiction, IPTM Homicide Investigation, Introduction to Drugged Driving, Interview and Interrogation, Defensive Knife Instructor, Low Light Instructor, Tactical Ground Fighting Instructor and two MILO courses, one regionally offered in Cozad, Nebraska.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

NLETC, working with the State Police Memorial Committee, participated in the Nebraska Police Memorial Dedication Service on Monday, May 11th, 2009 at the new Memorial located in Fonner Park, Grand Island. Governor Dave Heineman and Attorney General Jon Bruning were guest speakers. Executive Director Michael Behm assisted with reading of the names. The 174th Basic Class attended. (Pictures of the 174th Basic taken by Steven Gobel)

BUILDING DIVISON

The NLETC gun range parking lot was paved in 2009. The facility parking lot and a portion of the driving course was sealed. The outside track received an Armor Coat treatment. A new custodian/housekeeper position was created to give DAS greater ability to turn rooms around between Friday checkout and Monday check-in by having a housekeeper working Saturday and Sunday. It also added a weekend staffing component that had been missing for security and property upkeep.



Photo by Steven Gobel

Mandatory Courses (21 courses, 62,624 training hours, 261 students)

Basic Officer Certification (607 hours, 14 week basic training program)

Three basic sessions were held, starting with 130 seats and graduating 111 basic students.

Basic Jail Certification (80 hours, 2 weeks)

Three basic jail sessions were held, graduating 34 students.

Management Certification (24 hours, 3 days)

Four management sessions were held, graduating 43 students.

Reciprocity/Reactivation/Reserve/Tribal Certification (180/212 hours, most via on-line courses)

Six courses were held, graduating 15 students.

Supervision Certification (24 hours, 3 days)

Five courses were offered, graduating 58 students.

SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

A number of enhanced security measures were put into effect in fiscal year 2008/2009. All but the front doors in the facility are locked 24/7. A mandatory photo ID or uniform policy went into effect. A security camera system was installed to help protect state and student assets.

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROPOSAL

The Police Standards Advisory Council spent most of 2009 drafting a proposed rule for requiring 20 hours of annual continuing education for all licensed Nebraska law enforcement officers including those exercising duties under the Nebraska Special Deputy State Sheriff and Reserve Officer status. A copy of the proposed rule and opportunity to comment is available at the NLETC website, www.nle.tc.state.ne.us

NEW LICENSES ISSUED

243 New or reactivated Law Enforcement Certificates were issued this fiscal year

Lincoln Police Academy	19
Omaha Police Academy	98
Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy	111
Reserve/Reciprocity/Reactivation	15

NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)

NLETC FY 09/10 BUDGET

General Funds, Operations	2,102,330
Cash Funds, Operations	625,524
Federal Funds, Operations	100,000

The NLETC, located in Grand Island, is administered by the Crime Commission. The Police Standards Advisory Council is consulted on all matters pertaining to the Training Center and acts as a subcommittee of the Crime Commission governing body. A renovation and expansion of the Training Center facility was completed in 2005 at a cost of \$11,385,000. This project added classrooms, a gymnasium, weight room, dorm rooms, office space, a firearms simulator, a vehicle inspection building and a dog kennel. In addition, the dining room and kitchen were expanded, and improvements made to the firearms range, driving track, and student lounge. The State Patrol Training Academy is now co-located at the expanded Training Center facility.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COUNCIL

The Community Corrections Council is a governing board created by the Legislature in 2003 to identify appropriate alternatives to incarceration and foster their utilization within a comprehensive community justice strategy. The Council is a unique collaborative effort between the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of government, criminal justice representatives, Department of Health and Human Services and providers.

Since its inception, the Council's mandate has included the development and implementation of a plan for statewide use of, and standards for, community correctional facilities and programs. The Council is also charged with the creation of, and revision to, sentencing guidelines.

The Council staff and members have also been working diligently on the development of a criminal justice data reporting and analysis system. This data system allows the Council to quantify the cost savings and recidivism reductions from community programs and enable the state to make consistent, competent, and informed criminal justice policy and sentencing decisions.

The Community Corrections Council is housed within the Crime Commission which provides budgetary and administrative support .	Breakdown of Funds	
	Substance Abuse Treatment	1,866,686
	Specialized Courts	2,138,939
	Reporting Centers	1,363,859
	Uniform Data Analysis	503,644
General Funds, Operations	5,685,791	
Cash Funds, Operations	503,644	
	Operations	316,307

"The art of governing consists simply of being honest, exercising common sense, following principle, and doing what is right and just."

- Thomas Jefferson

OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The primary responsibility of the State Office of Violence Prevention is to help promote and assess statewide violence prevention programs in the State of Nebraska.

The Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) aids privately funded organizations, local government subdivisions, and other community leaders and advocacy groups in developing proven and cutting-edge Prevention, Intervention, and Enforcement theories and techniques.

Through a competitive grants process administered by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission), the OVP recently awarded \$350,000 to seven separate organizations in Nebraska that have shown a history of documented success in helping to reduce violent crime in Nebraska. Six of the recipients are located and operate within the Omaha metropolitan area.

The grant recipients are required to develop goals, objectives and performance indicators in order to help evaluate the success of the financial distribution. Upon awarding of the funds, grantees will be required to submit quarterly activity and cash reports to the Office of Violence Prevention/Crime Commission. Also, grantees will be required to provide an evaluation report and a portion of the grant funds must be used for a professional evaluator. The report must provide a comprehensive review of the program's overall effort, and measurable results during the grant cycle. Those results must be provided to the Office of Violence Prevention.

OBJECTIVES

One of the objectives of the office is to break down the issues regionally throughout Nebraska. A goal of the Office of Violence Prevention is to help outline the project operation for organizations throughout Nebraska that work in the areas of crime prevention, intervention, enforcement and diversion.

Another objective is to establish sustainability in order to aid communities throughout Nebraska into the future. To accomplish this goal, the OVP is also seeking to develop continuous and reliable funding sources that will aid in continuing this collaborative effort.

THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

In May of 2009, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 63, establishing the Office of Violence Prevention within the Nebraska Crime Commission. A provision within LB 63 provided for the establishment of the Advisory Council to the Office of Violence Prevention. The Council is to meet quarterly and is directed to recommend – to the Crime Commission – rules and regulation regarding fundraising, program evaluation, coordination of programs, and criteria used to assess and award funds to violence prevention programs.

General Funds, Operations	\$100,000
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Cash Funds, Aid	\$350,000
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EXPANSION OF STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN IN 2010 AND BEYOND

The Douglas County recipients of the Office of Violence Prevention grants have partnered to work as a unit in order to implement the Douglas County Violent Crime Reduction Strategy, also known as the Office of Violence Prevention's Comprehensive Strategy. The partners are working together to create a comprehensive strategy to address the causes and negative impacts of violent crime in the community. The strategy will allow for the sustainability of the collaborative process, and provide for opportunities for much needed additional funding in the future.

Platte County Diversion also received grant funding through the competitive grants process. Platte County, which includes the city of Columbus, and the villages of Monroe, Humphrey, Lindsay, Tarnov, Duncan, Platte Center and Creston, has been helpful in identifying specific areas where gang related issues are of an immediate concern. Platte County Diversion has developed a Task Force made up of the county attorney, law enforcement, probation, diversion and school officials, to enhance collaboration. Diversion also plans to employ two contractual agents in order to deal with information data sources and data sharing, as well as a jailhouse interviewer.

This model, along with the Douglas County collaboration model, has aided the Office of Violence Prevention in proposed expansion of future services. The Comprehensive Strategy has drawn considerable interest in Hall County, Dakota County, Buffalo County and other areas throughout western Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha have both indicated significant interest in the Violence Prevention Strategy, and are currently collaborating with Douglas County intervention organizations to aid in this effort.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO CRIME COMMISSION STATUTES - 2009

- LB 35** Section 31 of LB 35 changes the Law Enforcement Improvement Fund Fee (LEIF) from \$1 to \$2 per court case. This fee partially supports the Law Enforcement Training Center.

Effective Date: August 30, 2009

- LB 63** Creates the Office of Violence Prevention within the Crime Commission. Creates an advisory council and assigns responsibilities to the council and the Director of the Office of Violence Prevention. Creates the Violence Prevention Cash Fund, to administered by the Crime Commission.

LB 63A appropriates \$100,000 general funds to the Office of Violence Prevention for FY 09/10 and for FY 10/11 for operating costs. It also appropriates \$350,000 cash funds to the Office for grant awards. The Crime Commission is directed to distribute the grant funds as soon as practicable after the effective date of LB 63 to organizations that have submitted violence prevention plans and best meet the intent of LB 63.

Effective Date: May 28, 2009

- LB 598** A nonprofit organization, to be known as the Community Trust, may be created. After a tragedy of violence or a natural disaster, the Community Trust shall accept contributions from the public and make distributions to victims. The Crime Victim's Reparations (CVR) Committee shall oversee the Community Trust and shall annually report its activities and findings as the oversight committee to the Crime Commission, the Governor, and the Legislature. If any questionable or improper actions or inactions on the part of the Community Trust are observed, the CVR Committee shall notify the Attorney General. Two public members are added to the CVR Committee.

Effective Date: August 30, 2009

- LB 671** Adds four members to the County Attorney Standards Advisory Council. Requires the Council to develop guidelines to promote uniform and quality death investigations for county coroners. Requires the Council to help establish a voluntary network of regional officials to provide death investigation support services for any location in Nebraska.

Requires coroners and deputy coroners to satisfactorily complete initial death investigation training within one year after the date they are elected or appointed and thereafter complete annual education as determined by the Council.

Effective Date: August 30, 2009



Standing Committees:

Crime Victim's Reparations Committee
Education/Research/Planning Committee
Grant Review Committee
Statute Review Committee
Data Processing Committee
Police Standards Advisory Council

Advisory Groups:

Coalition for Juvenile Justice
County Attorney Standards Advisory Council
Criminal Justice Information Systems
Advisory Committee
Office of Violence Prevention Advisory
Council

Jail Standards Board

Budget/ Administration

The Crime Commission staff
provides support for

Law Enforcement Training Center

Fiscal Planning and
Administrative Support

Community Corrections Council**Budget/Administration**

The Council is within the Crime Commission for administrative support and budgetary purposes. The Executive Director of the Council is appointed by the Governor.

Office of Violence Prevention**Budget/ Administration**

<http://www.ncc.ne.gov>

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